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ON A QUESTION OF GRINBLAT

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ABSTRACT. We prove the consistency of: there is a κ -complete ideal on κ for some $\kappa < 2^{\aleph_0}$ such that the Boolean algebra $\mathcal{P}(\kappa)/I$ is σ -centered and there are Q -sets of reals.

§1

In set theoretic language, Grinblat has been asking for some time

1.1 Problem: Is it consistent with ZFC that:

- (a) there is an \aleph_1 -complete ideal I on some $\kappa < 2^{\aleph_0}$ such that $\mathcal{P}(\kappa)/I$ is centered
- (b) there is a Q -set.

We answer positively.

1.2 Claim. Assume that $\kappa < \chi = \chi^\kappa$ and κ is measurable, say D is a normal ideal on κ and I is the dual ideal.

Then for some c.c.c. forcing notion P of cardinality χ we have in V^P :

- (*) (i) $2^{\aleph_0} = \chi$
- (ii) $\text{MA}_{<\kappa, <\text{cf}(\chi)}(\sigma\text{-centered})$ holds (i.e. MA for forcing notions of cardinality $< \kappa$ and $< \text{cf}(\chi)$ dense open subsets hence every set of reals of cardinality $< \kappa$ is a Q -set)
- (iii) the Boolean algebra $\mathcal{P}(\kappa)/I$ is centered, i.e. $\mathcal{P}(\kappa) \setminus I^{V^P}$ is the union of countable many directed sets (where $I^{V^P} = \{A \in V^P : A \subseteq \kappa \text{ and } A \text{ is included in some member of } I\}$).

1.3 Remark. 1) Why the “hence” in (ii)? As for $X \subseteq Y \subseteq {}^\omega 2$ the natural forcing Q of adding subtrees $T_n \subseteq {}^{>\omega} 2$ for $n < \omega$ such that $\bigcup_{n < \omega} \lim(T_n) \cap Y = X$ is σ -centered of cardinality $\leq |Y| + \aleph_0$ and it is enough to find a directed $G \subseteq Q$ intersecting $|Y| + \aleph_0$ dense subsets. E.g. we can use:

$$Q = \left\{ p = (\bar{t}, \bar{u}) : \text{for some } n = n(p) < \omega \text{ we have :} \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (a) \quad \bar{t} = \langle t_\ell : \ell < n \rangle, \text{ each } t_\ell \text{ has the form } T \cap {}^{m_\ell(p) \geq 2} 2, T \\ & \quad \text{a perfect subtree of } {}^{>\omega} 2, m_\ell(p) < \omega, \\ & (b) \quad \bar{u} = \langle u_\ell^* : \ell < n(p) \rangle, u_\ell^* \subseteq X \text{ is finite} \\ & (d) \quad \text{if } \ell < n(p), n \in u_\ell \text{ then } \eta \upharpoonright m_\ell(p) \in t_\ell \end{aligned} \left. \right\}.$$

The order is natural $p \leq q$ iff $n(p) \leq n(q)$ & $\bigwedge_{\ell < n(p)} [t_\ell^p \subseteq t_\ell^q,$
 $m_\ell(p) \leq m_\ell(q) \text{ \& } t_\ell^p = t_\ell^q \cap {}^{m_\ell(p) \geq 2} 2] \text{ \& } \bigwedge_{\ell < n(p)} u_\ell^p \subseteq u_\ell^q.$

Let for $\eta \in X$, \mathcal{J}_η be $\{p \in Q : \eta \in u_\ell^p \text{ for some } \ell < n(p)\}$ and for $x \in Y \setminus X, n < \omega$ let $\mathcal{G}_n = \{p \in Q : n \leq n(p) \text{ and } n \upharpoonright m_\ell(p) \notin t_\ell^p\}$

Proof of 1.2. Let $\bar{Q} = \langle P_i, Q_j : i \leq \chi, j < \chi \rangle$ be a FS iteration, in V^{P_i} , Q_j is a σ -centered forcing notion of cardinality $< \kappa$ and its set of elements is an ordinal $< \kappa$, and any such forcing notion appear unboundedly often, more exactly, if $i_0 < \chi$, Q is a P_{i_0} -name of a forcing notion with a set of elements (forced to be) $\alpha_Q < \kappa$, then for χ many (hence unboundedly many) $j \in (i, \chi)$ we have: \Vdash_{P_j} “if Q is σ -centered then $Q \cong Q_j$ ”.

As each Q_j is σ -center (in V^{P_j}) there is $\bar{f} = \langle f_j : j < \chi \rangle$ such that \Vdash_{P_j} “ f_j is a function from Q_j to ω such that each $\{p \in Q_j : f_j(p) = n\}$ is directed”.

So $P_{1,i} =: \{p \in P_i : \text{if } j \in \text{Dom}(p) \text{ then } p \restriction j \text{ forces a value to } f_j(p(j)) \text{ and a value to } p(j)\}$ is a dense subset of P_i . Now clearly clauses (i), (ii) of $(*)$ holds in V^P . As D is a normal ultrafilter on κ there is a transitive class M such that $M^\kappa \subseteq M$ and there is an elementary embedding \mathbf{j} from V to M with critical ordinal κ such that $D = \{A : A \in V, A \subseteq \chi \text{ and } \kappa \in \mathbf{j}(A)\}$. Let $\mathbf{j}(\bar{Q})$ be $\bar{Q}' = \langle P'_i, Q'_j : i \leq \mathbf{j}(\kappa), j < \mathbf{j}(\chi) \rangle$ and $\bar{f}' = \mathbf{j}(\bar{f}) = \langle f'_j : j < \mathbf{j}(\kappa) \rangle$, so M “thinks” that (\bar{Q}', \bar{f}') satisfies all the properties listed above, but in V it relates all of those properties, though not $\mathbf{j}(\kappa)$.

Let $P^* = \{\mathbf{j}(p) : p \in P_\chi\}$, so it is well known that $P^* \leq P'_{\mathbf{j}(\chi)}$ and the completion of the Boolean algebra corresponding to $P'_{\mathbf{j}(\chi)}/P^*$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{P}(\kappa)/I^{V^P}$, so it is enough to prove that \Vdash_{P^*} “ $P'_{\mathbf{j}(\chi)}/P^*$ is σ -centered” (in V^{P^*} , which is the same as V^{P_χ}). Note also the $P'_{\mathbf{j}(\chi)}$ hence $P'_{\mathbf{j}(\chi)}/P^*$ has cardinality $\leq |P_{1,\chi}|^\kappa = \chi^\kappa = \chi$.

Now the point is that we can reorder the iteration \bar{Q}' : first do $\langle Q_{\mathbf{j}(j)} : j < \chi \rangle$ and then the rest, as each Q_j depends on $< \kappa, j' < j$ and this set is not extended by \mathbf{j} .

Note first that this suffices as the limit of FS iteration of σ -centered forcing notion each of cardinality $\leq 2^{\aleph_0}$ and length $< (2^{\aleph_0})^+$ (in $V^{P_{1,\chi}!}$) is σ -centered.

Second, this reordering is possible.

[Why? The set of elements of Q_j is α_{Q_j} and α_{Q_j} is a P'_j -name of an ordinal $< \kappa$ and P'_j satisfies the c.c.c. hence for some $\alpha_j^* < \kappa$ we have $\Vdash_{P_{1,j}^*}$ “ $\alpha_{Q_j}^* \leq \alpha_j^*$ ” so Q_j is a subset of $\alpha_j^* \times \alpha_j^*$. For any $\beta, \gamma < \alpha^*$, there is a maximal antichain $\mathcal{J}_{j,\beta,\gamma}$ of $P_{1,j}^*$ of conditions forcing “ $Q_j \models \beta \leq \gamma^{(*)}$ ”, so $\beta \in Q_j, \gamma \in Q_j$ or forcing its negation.

We choose $\bar{I} = \langle \mathcal{J}_{j,\beta,\gamma} : j < \chi, \beta, \gamma < \alpha_j^* \rangle$. Let $A_j = \bigcup_{\beta, \gamma < \alpha_j^*} \bigcup_{p \in \mathcal{J}_{j,\beta,\gamma}} \text{Dom}(p)$, so

$|A_j| < \kappa$ and call $A \subseteq \chi$ \bar{Q} -closed if $(\forall j \in A)(A_j \subseteq A)$. Now in M we can compute $j(\bar{I})$ hence A_j^M for $j < \mathbf{j}(\chi)$, now easily $A_{\mathbf{j}(j)}^M = \{\mathbf{j}(i) : i \in A_j\}$ as $|A_j| < \kappa$, so this reordering is O.K.]

So we are done. □_{1.2}